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EDMONTON • WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2008

Beijing p/8

Bay pitches in for one more Olympic Games

Celebrity p/14

Drew, Justin's affair over

Toddler fights for life after car backs over her

INJURY A toddler is fighting for her life at the Stollery Children's Hospital after she was backed over by a car Monday afternoon near Rocky Mountain House.

The little girl was playing on the front yard of her home at the Sunchild Reserve — about 65 km northwest of the town — when she wandered away and was backed over by a priest who was running a nearby bible camp.

The little girl was quickly airlifted to the hospital suffering from major head trauma.

Mounties say no charges have been laid and it is not yet known how the toddler got into the path of the moving vehicle.

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/METRO EDMONTON

Canada page 4

Harper caps G8 emissions goals

Automotive page 9

Dodge revs up attitude in new Avenger

Entertainment page 12

Exploration films find new ground

Street fest

That's a mouthful

BEN LEWTHERS/METRO EDMONTON

Aussie sideshow performer, the Space Cowboy, attempts to break a world record of lifting weight from a sword down his neck. Here he successfully lifted four beer kegs from the sword yesterday afternoon in Churchill Square as part of the Edmonton International Street Performers Festival. Story, page 2.

Two cops guilty of assault

Judge rules officers trespassed in entering home without warrant

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
victoria.handysides@metronews.ca

Two high-ranking Edmonton city police officers were convicted yesterday of assaulting and arresting a man in his own home without a search warrant.

While two of the three officers accused of assaulting him will face the consequences, the 47-year-old victim said he's not satisfied with Provincial Court Judge Vaughn Myers' verdict.

"I'm still in a battle here and don't think that justice is being served," he said from outside the courtroom yesterday.

Dubois alleges Staff Sgt. Jamie Ewatski, Staff Sgt. Giovanni Fiorilli and Det. Terry Brisco burst through his door without a search warrant as they were searching for his nephew, 28-year-old Kevin Light, who was wanted for 17 charges. Dubois said after his nephew was led away, he became angry and called 9-1-1, claiming the officers assaulted him.

In an agreed statement of facts, Dubois repeatedly asked the officers for a search warrant, to which Fiorilli responded, "Oh, you want some of this?" Dubois then pushed one of the officers. They then cuffed and pepper sprayed him.

Fiorilli and Ewatski were each found guilty of assault. Brisco was found not guilty of assault.

Myers ruled that Dubois had every legal right to shove the officer, because he was trespassing in his home.

"Obviously (the judge) gave me a little credibility," Dubois said.

"They're guilty of assaulting me. They're guilty of pushing their way into my home. The disrespectful manner that they had was atrocious."

Another cop in court

Const. Douglas Kurtis Brown, meanwhile, pleaded not guilty to 11 charges yesterday to impaired driving and improper storage of a firearm stemming from a crash in May that left one man in hospital with severe burns.

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Maritime Night down the North Saskatchewan

Get ready for trip to the Maritimes, right down the North Saskatchewan River. On July 17, the Edmonton Queen will host Maritime Night with a seafood buffet and live music. For tickets, call 424-BOAT. METRO EDMONTON

Local

Andrew Dice Clay at Casino

The Dice man is back! The self-proclaimed Undisputed Heavyweight Comedy King, Andrew Dice Clay will be making a stop at the River Cree Casino on Sept. 4, at 8 p.m. Presale tickets for the show are available today at *www.ticketmaster.ca*. METRO EDMONTON

Citytv

ROGERS

Homicide detectives called in

DEATH A man who was allegedly beaten by his common-law wife last week has died in hospital, and now homicide detectives are on the case.

Emergency crews discovered the man June 29 suffering injuries near 95 Street and 107 Avenue. He was rushed to hospital, but died from his injuries Friday morning.

An autopsy was conducted over the weekend, but further testing will be required to determine a cause of death, said police spokesman Jeff Wuite.

Investigators are treating the case as a suspicious death.

Julie Starr, 40, faces a charge of aggravated assault, but no additional charges have been made by police since the man's death.

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/ METRO EDMONTON

Katz needed financial help to buy Oilers

LOAN Daryl Katz has secured a $100-million loan agreement with CIT group to help with the purchase of the Edmonton Oilers, reported the Wall Street Journal.

After several offers to the former ownership, the Edmonton Investors Group, local billionaire Katz agreed to purchase the team in February for $200 million.

"The debt markets have been a little finicky … but this is a deal for a hockey team in Canada, where hockey is king," Gordon Saint-Denis, managing director of media, entertainment and sports for CIT, told the paper.

Katz was introduced as owner of the team last week.

ANDREW COWIE/FOR METRO EDMONTON

–WITH FILES FROM REUTERS

BEN LEMPHERS/METRO EDMONTON

Mayor Stephen Mandel shows off the design for the Greenview Landing location in southeast Edmonton, part of the city's new program that uses existing infrastructure to create opportunities for first-time homebuyers.

City opens doors for new homebuyers

August draw to decide who will move into new units

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
victoria.handysides@metronews.ca

In an already oversaturated real estate market, the city has decided to roll out 85 new housing units for those looking to buy their first home with a bit of a break.

"The city carries the mortgage. There's no interest or no principle for five years," said Mayor Stephen Mandel.

"This is affordable housing for those that are income-challenged, and for people making a relative piece of income."

> **"The city carries the mortgage. There's no interest or no principle for five years. This is affordable housing for those that are income-challenged, and for people making a relative piece of income."**
> Mayor Stephen Mandel

The brand new townhouses range between $266,710 and $314,750 and will be built in two established neighbourhoods in the northeast and southeast ends of the city.

There are a record number of homes currently for sale and many have been sitting on the market for months, say real estate agents.

The city plans to add 11,000 new units to an already flooded market by 2011.

"Supply will be eaten up," Mandel said. "If you always say 'stop' because of a glitch in the marketplace, it's not going to happen."

Mandel added that many houses on the market were bought by speculators to turn a profit and that the new units are for people who will agree to live in them for at least five years.

A draw will be made in August to decide who will move into the homes.

"It's all dependent on luck," said Coun. Karen Leibovici. "It'll be interesting to see how many applications we get."

Sword swallower breaks record

ANDREW COWIE
for Metro Edmonton

Strike up one more Guinness Book Record for the Australian sword swallowing sensation known as Space Cowboy.

One of only around 40 sword swallowers in the world, Cowboy broke the record yesterday for most weight suspended from a swallowed sword, which was 22.4 kg., by carrying weight of 24.6 kg in front of hundreds of onlookers at the Edmonton International Street Performers Festival.

That's right, most weight suspended from a swallowed sword.

"It's not painful, but it's not the most comfortable thing in the world," he joked. "I pretty much blew (the old record) out of the water today."

It was done with a sword attached to a weight bar and two kegs hanging off each side, pressing the sword as far into his stomach as it can go.

Cowboy started his trade with unicycle riding when he was eight and continued on with his first sword swallowing at 16.

"I've always been into the circus racket…I like extreme performances so I like doing what I like to see," he said.

BEN LEMPHERS/METRO EDMONTON

The Space Cowboy swallows a double-edged steel sword in Churchill Square yesterday.

James Taylor to play Rexall Place
Crooner James Taylor takes the Rexall Place stage this Saturday. Tickets to see the legendary rocker are on sale at Ticketmaster for $45 to $85. METRO EDMONTON

$4B for carbon capturing, transit

NEIL MACKINNON
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Alberta's greenhouse gas reduction plan has been given a massive dose of financial fertilizer.

After a cabinet meeting in Calgary yesterday, Premier Ed Stelmach outlined a plan to dole out $4 billion to stimulate "world-class" high-capacity carbon-capture projects across the province, along with funding a Green Transit Incentives Program that will increase the number of LRT and rail extensions.

The move would also help build more park and ride lots in cities like Edmonton and Calgary, said Stelmach.

"We could well exceed our targets," said Environment Minister Mel Knight.

Alberta, criticized recently for being a dirty oil hotbed by American governors, has "an opportunity to lead in the world," Stelmach said, noting active industry participation will result in more dollars coming into the projects in the near future.

Greenpeace's Mike Hudema, however, doesn't buy Stelmach's greenhouse gas reduction plan saying carbon-capture technology is cost-preventative and "unproven."

"Burying carbon under the ground and hoping it stays there for hundreds of years is not the solution to the climate crisis," said Hudema in a release.

"It is time that this government quits trying to distract the public and starts taking meaningful action to address human-induced global climate change."

'one million cars'

Stelmach said the initiatives, "unprecedented in scope and scale," will be the equivalent of "taking one million cars off the road" and would help the province achieve its goal to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2050.

Health officers given the boot

NEIL MACKINNON
neil.mackinnon@metronews.ca

Capital Health's Shelia Weatherill was among 11 chief executive health officers across the province yesterday who received pink slips in order to pave the way for a new era of health care in Alberta.

"This isn't a cost cutting measure," said Ken Hughes, health services chair. "This allows us to deliver health care, right across the province, to meet the specific needs of the individual patient. This is all about the patient."

The new system, however, is expected to save the province millions of dollars in administrative redundancies with measures like centralized payroll and further "narrowing" in staff "where jobs no longer exist," Hughes said.

The move is part of Health Minister Ron Liepert's plan to centralize all of the province's health regions into one super health board.

Hughes said the plan should improve services for patients for the next 20 years.

Liberal health critic Dave Taylor slammed the new system, drawing on past moves that whittled the province's hospital boards from 200 to nine health regions that didn't result in a better system.

Don red for troops, city urges

HONOUR City officials are hoping to paint the town red on July 25.

In honour of our Canadian Troops, everyone in the city will be encouraged to wear red all day.

"It's a reminder and a chance for us to honour our soldiers and those that put their lives on the line every day," said Coun. Ed Gibbons, co-chair of the Edmonton Salutes Committee.

As it was done once before in November, officials hope a repeat performance in warmer weather will draw a larger crowd.

Red T-shirts will be sold at a number of different venues in honour of the event, like Taste of Edmonton, Capital Ex and the Rexall Edmonton Indy.

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/METRO EDMONTON

BEN LEMPHERS/METRO EDMONTON

Edmonton Transit bus driver Ernie Bastide is dressed in the uniform of the day with a 1957 GM diesel bus that will hit the streets to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Edmonton Transit System.

Transit marks 100 years with classic buses

HISTORICAL The classic red and cream buses that rode the city decades ago are making a return to help celebrate 100 years of transit service in Edmonton.

Edmonton Transit is celebrating a century of service by offering a new centennial historical bus tour in the old strawberry shortcake buses to bring back not only memories of the buses, but to help bring out the little secrets the city has to offer.

"Edmonton is a very beautiful city and there are lots of neat things that have happened in town," said Ernie Bastide, ETS driver for the last 33 years and bus tours for eight year.

"We're always so busy in our lives we tend to forget where we came from."

ETS Historical Tours run from July 26 to August 23. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased from Tix on the Square at Churchill Square.

ANDREW COWIE/
FOR METRO EDMONTON

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Tea and sympathy saves day
A Japanese woman and her six-month-old baby escaped unhurt from a knife-wielding thief this week after the mother calmed him down with a cup of tea and a chat. REUTERS

Canada/World

News in brief

MORGENTALER Members of a Catholic community yesterday returned an Order of Canada medal its founder received 32 years ago to protest a high-profile abortion-rights activist's receipt of the award. Representatives from Madonna House in Combermere arrived at Rideau Hall to return Catherine Doherty's 1976 medal in response to Dr. Henry Morgentaler's recent appointment to the order, joining a priest in British Columbia who has also surrendered his award in protest as well as other calls of protest.

CADMAN The widow of Chuck Cadman, who told a journalist that the Conservatives offered the dying MP a financial incentive, is disputing parts of the story in a new affidavit. Dona Cadman filed an affidavit in Ontario Superior Court saying that she never introduced Tom Zytaruk to Stephen Harper at her home in 2005. Cadman is now running as the Conservative candidate.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Harper limits G8 goals: Official

Calls it "important advance"

Prime Minister Stephen Harper worked to ensure that the Group of Eight leaders produced a climate change agreement that did not contain overly ambitious goals for cutting greenhouse gases, a senior Canadian government official says.

"This is the first time that (Russia and the U.S.) have conceded ... having a long-term mandatory goal for reductions"
PM Stephen Harper

G8 leaders meeting in Japan put aside their differences to reach an accord on tackling climate change, but environmental groups blasted the agreement as woefully inadequate to tackle one of the globe's most challenging problems.

Harper lauded the accord as an "important advance" because U.S. President George W. Bush dropped his enduring opposition to specific long-term goals for greenhouse gas cutbacks. The same is true of Russia, he noted. "This is the first time that either of those countries have conceded the necessity of having a long-term mandatory goal for reductions," Harper told the media. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Demonstrators walk on Prague's Stefanikuv bridge during a rally against a plan to build a U.S. missile defence shield in the Czech Republic yesterday.

Czech Republic, U.S. sign defence deal

Russia threatens military action over shield

The United States signed a pact yesterday to build part of a U.S. missile defence shield in the Czech Republic, prompting neighbouring Russia to warn it will react with military means if the shield is deployed.

"We will be forced to react ... with military-technical methods."
Russian statement

The U.S. and Czech foreign ministers toasted with champagne after signing the accord to place a tracking radar southwest of Prague as part of a system to protect against the perceived threat of missile attack from countries such as Iran.

But Russia, in a statement reminiscent of Cold War rhetoric, warned the United States against deploying the shield close to its borders.

"If the real deployment of an American strategic missile defence shield begins close to our borders, then we will be forced to react not with diplomatic methods, but with military-technical methods," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement on its *www.mid.ru* website.

It did not give specifics but analysts said the threat appeared aimed at stoking European opposition to the shield. REUTERS

G8 nations to impose sanctions on Zimbabwe

SUMMIT The Group of Eight rich nations agreed yesterday to impose sanctions against Zimbabwe's leadership because of violence during the widely condemned re-election of President Robert Mugabe.

The United States, Britain and Canada had lobbied for a strong stand at a G8 summit in Japan.

A number of G8 nations already have financial and travel restrictions on Mugabe and his inner circle.

"We will take further steps, inter alia introducing financial and other measures against those individuals responsible for the violence," the G8 said in statement at its summit in Japan. METRO NEWS SERVICES

West Bank mall ordered to close

MIDEAST Israeli forces raided a popular shopping mall in the occupied West Bank yesterday, ordering its closure for two years over its owner's alleged links to Hamas.

Palestinian shoppers defied the Arabic-language order, left at the complex and signed by an Israeli general, by flocking to the five-storey complex in the centre of the city of Nablus. "Those in charge of the property must ... close it and keep it shut for two years, upon receipt of this order," the document said, threatening violators with a five-year jail term and giving shopowners until Aug. 15 to move their businesses.
REUTERS

News in brief

QUAKE A magnitude 6.2 earthquake shook southern Peru early Tuesday, killing at least one person in the Andean country's second-largest city, Arequipa, and damaging scores of homes.
REUTERS

ODDITY A demolition man stripping a fireplace from the former home of The Lord of the Rings author J.R.R. Tolkien stumbled across a postcard to the writer dated 1968, and hopes to sell it for a small fortune. REUTERS

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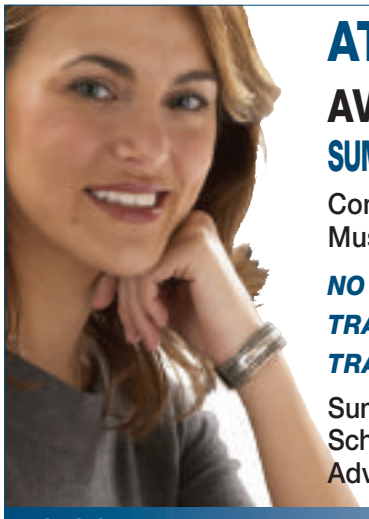
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Who is Paull Travel ??

Paull Travel is located in downtown Edmonton on Rice Howard Way, and has been in the same location (although they have expanded twice) for 22 years. They have grown from a staff of 4 to a staff of 16 through referrals from their existing clients only.

Lesley Paull is the sole owner of Paull Travel, and started right out of school at the age of 17 years. It was only to be a part time summer job until she went to University for an Education degree, but the travel passion took over and she has never left. After having worked for 2 agencies over a period of 10 years, she then opened Paull Travel in 1986 in its present location.

The vision was never to be the biggest, but certainly to be the best. To achieve that goal only the best agents and only the best administrative staff have been hired. What makes them the best? They have a passion for their job, be it selling travel, or more behind the scenes in one of the many administrative jobs. They look for someone who loves to work in a team environment, and takes pride in office successes as well as their own. By the way, a sense of humour is a great asset!

If you are looking at a new career or coming back into the work force, give Paull Travel some consideration. They train the right people, and always welcome you. They have positions that do not direct sell but are administrative in which you learn the company and the jobs from the ground up. What a great way to start!

If you are thinking of a change, they are looking for a corporate and a leisure agent as they have had some rare openings due to maternity leaves. They are also looking for an administrative person to learn how the company works and learn a multitude of different jobs. Could you be one of these people?

If you are a team player, you want to learn, you can work under pressure, you like to have fun - you just might be the right person for this "high touch" agency. Drop by their office and see how you feel, or call Lesley at 428-6031 or email lesley@paulltravel.com. Come and talk to any of their teammates anytime and find out what Paull Travel is about.

Paull Travel was the runner up for the small business Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award, and they were nominated for the best administrative team, as well as numerous industry awards.

Again, their goal is not to be the biggest, but they definitely strive to be the best.

To learn more about some of our unique escorted tours offered by Paull Travel email lesley@paulltravel.com or Call 780 428 6031!

PAULL TRAVEL

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WestJet planes less full in June

WestJet Airlines planes flew less full in June as a big increase in capacity more than offset growing passenger traffic. Its load factor, a measure of how full its planes flew, fell to 76.5 per cent, down 3.4 percentage points from 79.9 per cent in June 2007. REUTERS

Business

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Spectrum auction nears end

WIRELESS A government auction of wireless spectrum aimed at bringing new competition to Canada's cellphone market has reached its final stretch, with total bids reaching $4.2 billion so far — about twice the amount expected.

A range of companies that don't yet have a large wireless presence in Canada have emerged in the bidding for airwaves over which wireless services are delivered.

With bidding expected to end soon, the three top telecom companies, which already dominate Canada's $13-billion wireless market — Rogers Communications Inc., BCE Inc. and Telus Corp. — lead the pack in the dollar value of high bids across the country. REUTERS

Buzz announces early retirement

Lewenza to replace CAW union's boss

Buzz Hargrove says he will retire early as the president of the Canadian Auto Workers and Ken Lewenza, the fiery leader of the union's big Windsor local, is set to jump into the driver's seat.

Hargrove, who has led the union since 1992, surprised CAW leaders yesterday by revealing he will leave no later than Sept. 15 instead of next year.

Hargrove, the CAW's other senior officers, executive board, directors and staff overwhelmingly endorsed Lewenza, president of Local 444 in Windsor, at meetings yesterday to fill the $150,700 a year hot seat.

"I think everyone works hard for the union but no one works harder than Kenny."
Buzz Hargrove

"He has enormous energy," Hargrove told reporters as Lewenza sat beside him.

"I think everyone works hard for the union but no one works harder than Kenny."

Hargrove assistants Hemi Mitic and Tom Collins, who indicated earlier they would run regardless of the outcome of the endorsements, instead pulled out of the race at the same meetings.

Hargrove, who had planned on retiring next March or August, said campaigning had started for his post and he didn't want the increasing political activity to divide the CAW.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bank backs off as tensions ease

CREDIT CRUNCH Tensions in Canada's money markets have eased enough to prompt the Bank of Canada to suspend operations to get short-term lending back on track.

The bank said yesterday it would sell back $1 billion worth of securities it bought on the market on June 10 instead of rolling them over, citing an improvement in bank funding costs. This was the second time it has decided to conclude a transaction of this sort. REUTERS

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Hawthorne HOMES

Harden dealt to Cubs
The Chicago Cubs have acquired pitchers Rich Harden, from Victoria, and Chad Gaudin from the Oakland Athletics in exchange for four prospects. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Stanley mistaken for ashtray at bash

YorkReport

Marty York
marty.york@metronews.ca

So the Stanley Cup was used as — brace yourself — an ashtray by party animals on Malibu Beach.

No joke.

U.S. musician Kid Rock had a wild July 4 bash in which invited members of the NHL champion Detroit Red Wings left the Cup out on the beach, where "people mistook the trophy for an ashtray," according to the New York Daily News. And before you decide to dismiss the information as nonsense emanating from an unreliable rag, keep in mind that it was the same paper that disclosed the extra-marital habits of Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez and his pending divorce, many of which have been confirmed.

• Strippers, by the way, are coming out of the woodwork now to divulge that they had affairs with A-Rod. Seems the future Hall of Famer has had a thing for skanky chicks — no offence to fans of 49-year-old entertainer Madonna, who's been rumoured as A-Rod's latest lover.

Boston stripper Candice Houlihan told reporters she had a two-night stand with A-Rod in 2004 and that the player's wife, Cindy Rodriguez, "did the right thing" by filing for divorce. "A leopard doesn't change his spots," said Houlihan, a hairdresser these days. "Good for her. I think she's doing the smart thing."

Houlihan added: "And she'll probably get tons of cash."

And I add: "Duh."

• Members of the 0-2 Winnipeg Blue Bombers are peeved at their coach, Doug Berry, who's been accusing them of enjoying the Montreal night life too much before they were crushed by the Alouettes last week … Members of the 1-1 Toronto Argonauts are peeved at their coach, Rich Stubler, because they've decided he lacks communication skills as well as general knowledge about offensive football … There's a quiet quarterback controversy in B.C., where members of the 0-2 Lions think Buck Pierce is a better choice than Jarious Jackson, who was ineffective and noticeably nervous against the Saskatchewan Roughriders last week. The Lions are 2.5-point underdogs for their game in Winnipeg Friday night … Damon Allen is a retired grandfather at 45, but he's let it be known throughout the CFL that he's willing and eager to return to any team in need of a quarterback.

• Entrenched in the AL East cellar, the Blue Jays have clearly become a seller for MLB's July 31 trade deadline.

The Jays are dangling not only pitcher A.J. Burnett as trade bait, but also shortstop David Eckstein (who's attracting interest from the Los Angeles Dodgers), utility man Matt Stairs, catcher Gregg Zaun and virtually every member of the team other than a few of their starting pitchers and outfielders.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Toronto 7 Baltimore 6
Boston 6 Minnesota 5
Detroit 9 Cleveland 2
N.Y. Yankees 5 Tampa Bay 0
Oakland 2 Seattle 0
Texas 3 L.A. Angels 2
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Arizona 2 Washington 0
Chicago Cubs 7 Cincinnati 3
Milwaukee 7 Colorado 3
N.Y. Mets 7 San Francisco 0
St. Louis 2 Philadelphia 0
Houston at Pittsburgh
Florida at San Diego
Atlanta at L.A. Dodgers

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Minnesota at Boston, 11:05
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees, 11:05
Cleveland at Detroit, 5:05
Baltimore at Toronto, 5:07
L.A. Angels at Texas, 6:05
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City, 6:10
Seattle at Oakland, 8:05

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Florida at San Diego, 1:35
Houston at Pittsburgh, 4:05
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 4:05
San Francisco at N.Y. Mets, 4:10
Arizona at Washington, 4:10
Colorado at Milwaukee, 5:05
Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs, 5:05
Atlanta at L.A. Dodgers, 8:10

CFL

WEEK 3

TOMORROW'S GAMES
Calgary at Montreal, 5
Toronto at **EDMONTON**, 8

FRIDAY'S GAME
B.C. at Winnipeg, 6

SATURDAY'S GAME
Saskatchewan at Hamilton, 2

Tour Schumacher surges to yellow

JASPER JUIN/GETTY IMAGES

German Stefan Schumacher shocked the favourites to snatch the Tour de France overall leader's yellow jersey with victory in the fourth stage, a 29.5-km time trial around Cholet yesterday.

Sports in brief

NFL Suspended Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick filed for bankruptcy protection yesterday. Vick claims to owe between $10 and $50 million US.

CFL Edmonton Eskimos quarterback Ricky Ray, British Columbia Lions defensive end Cameron Wake, and Toronto Argonauts kick returner Dominique Dorsey were named the CFL's top players for Week 2 yesterday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Time delay scrapped.
China's state television plans to scrap its usual slight delay for live broadcasts during the Olympic Games, allowing the audience to see everything "as it happens," the official Xinhua agency said yesterday. REUTERS

Beijing Games

Ronaldinho vows to play for Brazil

SOCCER After being told by Barcelona that they would refuse to allow forward Ronaldinho to play for Brazil in next month's Olympic Games, the superstar reiterated his desire to go to the games.

"It is my dream to search the gold for Brazil," he said at a press conference Brazilian media sources reported.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tomorrow's lineup

ALL IN THE FAMILY "I grew up with the Olympics as part of my life with my grandfather, father and uncles all competing at the Olympics," says Beijing-bound solo flatwater canoeist Mark Oldershaw. Read tomorrow's Metro for more.

29 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

Final countdown

IOC ruling means softball player from B.C. likely facing her final Olympics

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Canada

Growing up in Trail, B.C., a small nature city with a matching population, there was little for Lauren Bay to do besides play sports.

She played many — basketball, volleyball, track, gymnastics — but it was in the ballpark with her older brother Jason that she found her true calling.

Bay, who originally hoped to be a centre-fielder before discovering her true talent at pitching, grew up to be one of the country's top softball pitchers, representing Canada at the Olympic Games.

Jason grew up to be an outfielder for Major League Baseball's Pittsburgh Pirates. Athleticism is clearly in the family's blood, Bay's grandparents Sylvia and Arthur also played ball, her uncle Gerry Moro was a three-time Olympian in decathlon, and her father David played little league.

Kelly Bay, Lauren's mother, said her daughter always had a knack for the sport, but her accomplishments have been no less amazing.

"We didn't imagine it would take her where she's gotten — I don't think anyone could have imagined that — but we're certainly thankful and grateful that it has," she said.

> **"We didn't imagine [softball] would take her where she's gotten."**
> Kelly Bay

When Bay was 16, she got a call from the White Rock Renegades.

"They were known as the powerhouse of my generation and that was a pretty big deal to even have a phone call from them," said Bay. Her parents, whom she called "saints," drove her nearly eight hours every weekend while school was in session to get her to home games.

The athletic girl with a competitive nature caught the eye of a handful of universities. Among them was Oklahoma State, which she ended up choosing for its welcoming sense of southern hospitality. At OSU, Bay studied international business and became a stand-out while playing ball, posting a 26-10 record as a senior in 2003 and striking out 451 to break her single-season record.

In 2002, Bay was part of the Canadian softball team that placed ninth at the World Championships in Saskatoon, and in 2004, was part of the Canadian team that placed fifth at the summer Olympics in Athens.

In August, Bay will again be one of the 15 players to represent our home and native land in softball at the Olympic Games in Beijing, where her parents and husband will be present to cheer her on.

"When that anthem starts and you look around and see everyone wearing red and white, you just swell up with a sense of pride and awe that your daughter is one of the chosen few who gets to represent that country," said Kelly Bay. "How many people can say that?"

However, Sylvia Bay added the trip will be bittersweet for Lauren.

"She's looking forward to it, because this will probably be her last one," she said, referring to the International Olympic Committee's vote to remove softball and baseball from the Games effective 2012. These are the first two sports to be cut since polo was voted out in 1939.

Bay called the cut "heartbreaking" and said that she will work with various organizations to bring it back once the bustle of the Games dies down.

"Growing up of having a goal to play softball in the Olympics ... it's heartbreaking to know that, as of right now, no more softball players will be able to follow their dreams in that aspect."

The IOC will vote again in 2009.

Lauren Bay pitches during a softball game between Japan and Canada during the Athens 2004 Summer Olympic Games in this file photo. SCOTT BARBOUR/GETTY IMAGES

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lauren Bay will be a part of the Canadian softball team at the Summer Games in Beijing next month.

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Muscular Avenger

Dodge brings bad boy attitude to mid-size car segment

B. MCLAUCHLAN
for Metro Canada

Leave it to the "grab life by the horns" boys over at Dodge to inject a little "attitude" into the mid-size car segment with its new-for-2008 Avenger five-passenger sedan.

The New Dodge Challenger is all muscular and aggressive, thanks to styling cues borrowed from the brand's Charger model.

All muscular and aggressive, thanks to styling cues borrowed straight from the brand's full-size Charger model, the 2008 Avenger actually shares its platform and most of its mechanical bits with its corporate cousin, the Chrysler Sebring.

The Avenger's styling and materials look and feel better than the Sebring, though that's no reason for any competitors to consider reworking their own offerings. On the other hand, features-wise, the Avenger is a leader, offering the automaker's MyGIG multimedia audio and entertainment system with available navigation, Chill Zone cooled storage compartment above the glove box, heated and cooled cupholders (except on the base Avenger SE) and an available rear-seat DVD entertainment system.

As with the Sebring, the Avenger offers three trim levels. In the latter's case that means the base Avenger SE starting at $20,495, followed by a mid-range SXT version with a $22,595 sticker price and the range-topping Avenger R/T with a $27,395 entry fee.

2008 Dodge Avenger SE

- Type: Mid-size 5-pass sedan FWD
- Price: $20,495
- Engine: 2.4L L4 DOHC
- HP: 173 @ 6,000 rpm
- Torque: 166 @ 4,400 rpm

Highlights:

- Muscular 'Charger-inspired' styling
- Available Flex Fuel engine
- Available all-wheel-drive
- Chill Zone drink cooler

In its SE trim the Avenger comes with a 173 horsepower, 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine and four-speed automatic transmission, standard side-curtain airbags, four-speaker AM/FM stereo with CD/MP3 player, tilt and telescopic steering wheel, power locks and mirrors, air conditioning, 60/40-split rear seat and 16-inch wheels and tires.

The SXT with a similar powertrain adds anti-lock brakes, the company's YES Essentials stain resistant seat fabric, a power eight-way driver's seat, six-speaker audio system, fold-flat passenger seatback, Touring suspension and 17-inch alloy wheels.

The R/T is equipped with a 235 hp, 3.5-litre V6 mated to a six-speed automatic. It also gets a sport-tuned suspension and bigger brakes to improve handling and stopping, along with interior upgrades in keeping with its top-of-the-line status.

The Avenger interior looks nice enough with a two-tone motif, bright trim and easy-to-operate controls.

The Avenger interior looks nice enough with a two-tone motif, white-face gauges, bright trim and easy-to-operate controls.

The four-cylinder engine's performance is perky enough for most needs while the ride quality is smooth on the highway and quiet around town.

Toyota, Nissan slash prices on several models

Canadian car buyers looking to save some bucks behind the wheel of a new vehicle can take advantage of new, lower prices on several Toyota models.

The reductions range from $1,350 to $7,900 depending on the model.

Three 2008-model Toyotas have been reduced: RAV4 buyers save $1,350 on the new manufacturer's suggested list price (MSRP) of $26,050 — down from the previous MSRP of $27,400.

The Prius hybrid sedan drops by $1,900 to its new MSRP of $27,600 while the '08 Highlander is now $34,900 for a saving of $2,000.

New Lexus prices

Eight of the Toyota's upscale Lexus models have also seen price reductions, ranging from $1,400 for the 2008 RX series to $7,900 on the sporty SC

On a similar note, Nissan has announced the 2009 Armada's pricing will be reduced by $10,000 for a new MSRP of $53,298 while the '09 Titan sees reductions of up to $1,500 on both the Crew Cab and King Cab pickup trucks0

Also Infiniti's 2009 FX35 drops $4,350 to $50,700 while there's a $9,900 saving awaiting buyers of the QX56 seven- and eight-passenger SUVs.

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New car colours in full bloom

Blue is the new black, experts say

An "Atomic Orange" Chevrolet Corvette

Although white, silver and black dominate the global mass auto market, car buyers around the world are leaning toward various treatments of blue, according to leading auto industry designers and a global team of DuPont colour designers.

"This year, we thought it would be interesting to ask car and colour designers in mid year about automobile buyers' colour preferences," said Karen Surcina, colour marketing and technology manager, DuPont Automotive Systems.

For the last 55 years, the DuPont Global Automotive Colour Popularity Report has provided a year-end, data-based snapshot of mass market car colour preferences.

In Canada and the U.S., blue also plays a role in consumer tastes, says Nancy Lockhart, colour designer for North America. She sees lighter blues emerging with a reddish accent representing a clean, fresh trend. Medium and dark shades of blue are more greenish, evoking a modern feel.

White tri-coats such as pearls are chosen by buyers for their luxurious, yet unpretentious presentation. Oranges and golds are also important and reddish gold is an emerging influence, she said.

"While current economic conditions in North America are not being felt in car colour choices, people are clearly being influenced by the 'green' movement, with natural versions of bold colours taking hold," Lockhart said. "For example, copper seems to be replacing flashier gold finishes and royal blues will give way to lighter, cleaner and more water-like blues. Even white will change, with ultra whites and yellowish whites giving way to cleaner versions."

Blue cars such as this Kia Sportage, left, and Saturn Aura, right, are gaining in popularity, although white, seen on the Chrysler 300, remains the most popular colour among consumers.

> **"Customers are embracing colour again."**
> General Motors' Christopher Webb

"White seems to be the most prominent colour on the road and on everyone's mind in design," said Mollie Engel, senior colour designer for Kia Design Center America. "It is the new luxury colour and it is also ecological. The lighter the colours we use, the less 'solar gain' is encouraged, and that means less gas we use to cool our cars."

Christopher Webb, General Motors lead colour and trend designer, interior and exterior, says "customers are embracing colour again," with brown, orange and blue selling well.

GM takes consumer input seriously. Several years ago, Webb polled Corvette Car Club members to find out which colour they would most like to see on their vehicles. Their request for orange came at a time when an "orange trend" was developing in other areas of product design. The result was a colour, developed with DuPont, called "Atomic Orange."

"Blue will continue to be strong in the marketplace along with a growing trend in natural and authentic colours," said Jim Parker, senior manager, colour and trim design, Chrysler LLC.

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Gas-saving tips: Makes cents or non-cents?

With gas prices soaring to above $1.40/litre for regular unleaded in some regions across the nation, tips about how to increase your car's gas mileage and save money on gas are circulating widely.

Much of this advice about how to increase your fuel mileage, however, is not worth the average driver's effort, according to *NADAguides.com*, a vehicle pricing and information website.

There are, however, some strategies to improve your car's gas mileage by 10 per cent or more, which does make good sense at today's pump prices. So here are some fuel economy tips that make "cents" and some that are "non-cents."

MAKES CENTS Drive slowly and steadily. The faster a car accelerates from a stop, the more gas it uses, while driving more slowly overall improves gas mileage because there is less aerodynamic resistance, making it easier for your car to move forward — the least aerodynamic vehicles, such as SUVs, tend to have the biggest improvements.

Not all gas-saving advice will help you pay less at the pump.

MAKES CENTS Keep tires properly inflated. If you do only one thing to improve your gas mileage, keep your tires properly inflated by checking their air pressure monthly. It's not unusual to see fuel economy gains of about 10 per cent with tires inflated at the recommended pressure.

NON-CENTS Fill up your gas tank when temperatures are coolest. One theory states that gasoline expands with warmer temperatures, so a litre of gas is actually less than a litre when temperatures are higher.

While this is true, the temperature in a gas station's underground storage tank is fairly constant, typically varying by about one degree, regardless of air temperature.

NON-CENTS Fill up when your tank is half-empty and use the slowest pump speed. Both pieces of advice stem from the idea that while gas is being dispensed, you want the most amount of gasoline and the least amount of vapours. But neither of these tips provides any significant gas savings.

NON-CENTS (SORT OF) Lighten your load. Sure, everybody talks about getting rid of unnecessary junk in your car to lighten your load and improve gas mileage, but when it comes to noticing a significant improvement in gas mileage, you'd have to eliminate at least 50 kilograms of cargo.

Big wheel
While many visitors may be familiar with the views from the London Eye, for a limited time, they will be able to get a similar birds-eye view from the east of the city with the opening of the Greenwich Wheel. The wheel will be up until Sept. 28, and offers spectacular panoramic views. VISIT BRITAIN

Travel

Buck House

Want to see how the royals live? Every year, Buckingham Palace opens its gates to visitors for a glance at the State Rooms. This year, the palace is open from July 29 to September 29. The tour includes a look at opulent collectibles including Faberge eggs, Rembrandt paintings and some of the finest furniture in the world. VISIT BRITAIN

Cosplay it again

TheTravelJunkie
Julia Dimon
www.thetraveljunkie.ca

In the bowels of Taipei, beneath a bridge where homeless men nestle-in for a good nights sleep, there's a simple community centre. From the outside, it doesn't look like much but inside, the Infinitive Cosplay Theatre have gathered, eager to strut their imaginative hobby. There's an energy in the air as they get ready for this evenings practice.

The girls dab themselves with thick white powder, red face paint and a thick coat of black mascara. They fiddle with heavy wigs, adjust their robes and slip into character.

They are Cosplayers, a growing sub-culture of Taiwan's young generation. Cosplay, a combination of "costume" and "play," has people dressing up as their favourite fictional characters. Rooted in Asia, this popular trend has found it's way around the world, including Canada. For the most part, costumes are inspired by Japanese anime and manga characters, but in Taiwan, the local youth have put their own spin on it. Cosplayers dress as characters from PiLi Puppet Theatre, a traditional performance of wooden hand-puppets. This cultural phenomenon re-enacts Chinese legends of love, chivalry and heroism through the art of puppetry.

Though the hobby may be growing in popularity, it certainly isn't cheap, with costumes, fans, staffs and wigs costing an upwards of 21,000 Taiwan dollars ($700 Canadian).

Cosplayers in Taiwan

Since the characters are copy-written, costumes aren't found in stores.

Myao Ju Sheun Hwa has spent an upwards of 50,000 ($1600 Canadian) this year on her Cosplay hobby.

By day, she's a secretary at a local shipping company, by night, this 34-year-old dresses as a female goddess, dawning a sheer gown and elaborate wig adorned with tulips. She is drawn to this PiLi character because "of her very kind and powerful personality." Myao talks about the puppet characters with familiarity and affection, admiring their loyalty, good looks and martial arts skills.

With over 10 people in the group, the team practices their routines three days a week. To the tune of wind chimes and a pan flute, they move about the space in a collective performance, re-enacting mock battles from ancient Chinese dynasties.

Their dance is interpretive. Their movements are carefully choreographed, with elements of kung fu.

Imagination takes these Cosplayers far from the urban reality of their humble surroundings.

Julia Dimon co-hosts Word Travels, airing on OLN, and edits The Travel Junkie. She can be reached through www.thetraveljunkie.ca.

Toy Story Mania! ups the ante at Disney

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
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You can play video games at home. Or you can be in the video game at Disney's newest ride, Toy Story Mania! Dubbed a 4-D adventure, the newest addition to Disney's California Adventure in Anaheim takes park goers through a series of virtual midway games led by the film's lead characters, Buzz Lightyear and Woody.

It keeps score, it's addictive and according to John Lasseter, chief creative officer of Pixar and Walt Disney Animation, this ride is exactly what Disney hoped for. "We wanted to create an attraction that was so fun, as soon as it's over you want to get back on again," Lasseter said.

Sitting side-by-side and armed with spring-action shooters you launch virtual projectiles ranging from darts to midway rings at 3-D targets. And yes, it can be tough on the forearms so stretch first.

Everything reacts to you, ballons burst showering you with virtual confetti and when rockets take flight directly at you, a perfectly timed blast of air lets you feel them whirl by.

They're so real, that several people were seen trying to touch the images.

And in each of the games, there is at least one "Easter egg" — a target that can trigger the appearance of bonus, high-value targets and other changes in the scene.

What makes this ride so addictive is the desire to improve your score and — more importantly — to beat the person beside you.

The only thing keeping people from riding Toy Story Mania! repeatedly on opening day was a lineup stretching halfway across Californialand. But that's a testament to people's love affair with the characters from Toy Story.

GENE DUNCAN/FOR METRO CANADA

Donning 3-D glasses and manning spring-action shooters, park goers ride the new Toy Story Mania! attraction at Disney's California Adventure in Anaheim, Calif.

To soothe the wait, Disney created a giant Mr. Potato Head that acts as a carnival barker. It's able to say several lines of dialogue to people in line as well as remove a body part (his ear) and re-attach it.

According to Lasseter, Toy Story Mania! is the first installment of a $1.1 billion, five-year plan to upgrade Disney's California Adventure, which opened in 2001. He said the next Disney movie to be turned into a ride will be Cars (2006).

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Superbad actor getting married

Superbad actor David Krumholtz is set to wed after proposing to actress girlfriend Vanessa Britting in Paris, France, imdb.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

Hear Bruni

French first lady Carla Bruni's album Comme si de rien n'était won't be released 'til July 15, but you can listen to it now online at *carlabruni.com*. METRO NEWS SERVICES

movies

Annette Bening

Bening named to Oscar board

PEOPLE Three-time Oscar nominee Annette Bening has been elected to the governing board of the organization that gives out the Academy Awards.

Bening, 50, joins the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which draws up Oscar's rules and regulations.

The actress is a three-time Oscar nominee for her roles in The Grifters, American Beauty and Being Julia. REUTERS

Fresh take on exploration

Journey To The Center Of The Earth takes thrills underground

JIM REYNO
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Ever wondered what's out there? Or in there? Or even, under there?

Generations of moviegoers have. With Friday's release of Journey To The Center Of The Earth, the next generation of movie fans can explore other worlds.

"It already recalls something like Jurassic Park, where there's this notion of an unknown world that is discovered unwittingly," said Charlie Keil, director of the cinema studies institute at the University of Toronto.

"It has both the elements of exploration and suspense and surprise because of the various obstacles the explorers are going to find."

Getting a new perspective is a movie tradition. You've probably never seen Trip To The Moon from 1902, but perhaps you've heard the phrase Where No Man Has Gone Before.

The Star Trek series started on the small screen, but went big in 1979. The new take of Journey To The Center Of The Earth, starring Brendan Fraser, is a modern spin on an old story. A 1959 version of the film starred Pat Boone. Both are based on the Jules Verne book published in 1864.

Journey To The Center Of The Earth takes a fresh look at the tradition of exploration on the big screen.

But our exploration fascination doesn't have to be on a grand scale.

Who could forget Hamilton's Martin Short cruising around in a li'l ship inside Dennis Quaid in 1987's Innerspace? Or Toronto's Rick Moranis as the flustered father in 1989's Honey, I Shrunk The Kids?

"You could say it's the same formula inverted, in a way," Keil said. "Rather than being exposed to something larger than expected, like a whole new world … cinema can show you things you didn't think were there … things that are suddenly magnified so we experience them differently."

Keil says one of the rules of exploration movies is the effectively melding "spectacle and narrative." He expects moviegoers will keep flocking to theatres to see what surprises are in store.

"Oh definitely. With (Journey), it's being linked to the burgeoning re-exploration of the capacities of new 3D technologies … everyone is saying the new 3D technology is really quite convincing. So this kind of narrative will suit that technology to a T."

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This Jewel Perfectly Clear

BRIAN TOWIE
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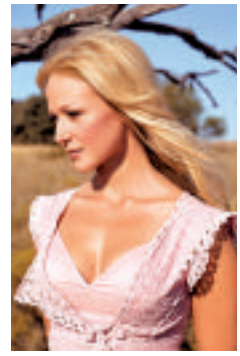
Jewel has gone country — but then she says she always was.

The Grammy Award winner and judge on NBC reality singing contest Nashville Star argues her newest album, Perfectly Clear, isn't so much about a reinvention of her sound as it is a return to her roots. Released last month, the album is full of Loretta Lynn-influenced narratives, swaying acoustic melodies and piano accents — a touch of city slicker sophistication to her largely self-produced down-home sound.

Jewel Kilcher penned much of the record growing up in rural Alaska, playing honky-tonk roadhouses with her dad and living on a ranch with no running water, a coal stove for heat and an outhouse for a toilet.

"I grew up writing this," says Jewel. "This is my life and my history. I didn't wake up and become someone else or get a new sound. I've never felt like I've had to pick a team or something. I've liked what I've always liked, which is storytelling."

The album belies Jewel's past incarnations, and maybe for good reason. Her 2003 album 0304, commercially successful though considered a misstep by critics and purist fans, fused big band with urban dance beats. It was certainly a far cry from 1995's Pieces Of You — one of the most successful debuts of all time. Jewel says the album was branded as alt-pop by a music industry riding the crest of the grunge rock tsunami caused by the success of bands such as Nirvana and Soundgarden, and should have been considered a country work if anything.



Jewel's Perfectly Clear is full of swaying acoustic melodies.

Now, at 34, Jewel has mixed memories of her time at the top. As a 19-year-old living in a car in San Diego, she wasn't ready for the ruthless realities of life at the top of the charts. She recalls frequently fighting uphill battles for creative freedom (which might explain 0304).

"I'm not trying to be a martyr or anything, but it is something to go from being homeless to being rich overnight. I was just not prepared for that at all. I don't think anyone would be. I certainly had rock 'n' roll clichés happen," she says. "The good news is that the more you're in control of everything, the safer you are."

Lesson learned — after more than a decade as a major label artist, Jewel says educating herself on the business has led her to a position where she can do what she wants, when she wants, and she warns up-and-comers to do the same.

"It's a complicated business, and it's not set up to help the artist win.

It's set up for everyone else to make money off of you," she says. "The industry runs artists into the ground. You see these talented kids and they're broke. It's heartbreaking, and it happens over and over."

CBS has revealed the identities of the 13 houseguests who will be competing on Big Brother 10, which will premiere this Sunday. "There's somebody for everyone in this cast," Big Brother executive producer Allison Grodner said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

CD boxed sets face uncertain future

MUSIC Have boxed sets lost their commercial luster, or can the configuration still shine when managed properly? Only a handful of enticing boxed sets are due out at year's end. Among them are Rhino's long-in-the-works four-disc Jesus and Mary Chain collection, The Power of Negative Thinking: B-Sides & Rarities; the label's multi-disc Jane's Addiction box, which is being supervised by drummer Stephen Perkins; and anthologies from Rob Zombie, Nina Simone, Roy Orbison, Dolly Parton and Hall & Oates.

One of the most in-demand items is Neil Young's eternally delayed Archives Vol. 1, which will come out only on Blu-ray and not on standard CDs, but it remains unclear if it will finally see the light of day by year's end.

"Boxed-set sales have fallen off the cliff; they went from something to nothing," says Bryan Everitt, director of music purchasing at Hastings Entertainment.

Everitt adds labels need to cut the prices of boxed sets. "Unless the majors seriously look at reducing the price of the boxed set — they still think they should cost US $39.98 or $49.98 — sales will continue to slide."

Mike Davis, executive VP/GM of Universal Music Enterprises, says that in response to those very concerns, the reissue specialist has launched a new series, Playlist Plus. It offers three discs at an affordable price, packaged in a Digipak inside a slipsleeve without any booklets. Retail sources say the series carries a list price of $29.99 and a boxlot of $19.58. Acts appearing in the series include the Temptations, Rod Stewart, Marvin Gaye, James Brown, the Allman Brothers Band, the Moody Blues, Kiss and the Velvet Underground.

REUTERS

In brief

POLITICS Howard Wolfson, one of Hillary Clinton's senior campaign advisers, will join Fox News Channel as a contributor. Wolfson is to make his first appearance on air today. Wolfson, a longtime political consultant, has worked as communications director for Clinton's New York election campaigns. He had a similar role in her presidential campaign but was promoted to co-chief strategist this year. Wolfson is one of many political figures the channel has hired for its election programming. **REUTERS**

Swingtown tries to hold its ground

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

GOING DOWN SWINGING: ABC's ardent shot at putting quality cable programming in network primetime isn't going over so well with either critics or advertisers. Swingtown debuted just over a month ago in the unenviable summer slot that once meant contractual obligation and sure death for a show before HBO and Showtime began launching shows in the torrid months, and the subject matter — the games of sexual chicken adults played with each other in the greasy aftermath of the '60s — was supposed to see the transplanting of risqué cable content to primetime. Monday saw an Advertising Age story about the show getting stiffed by advertisers, who want to capture the attention of younger viewers, but are still afraid of alienating the older ones who — as recent studies have shown — are still network television's biggest viewer demographic.

"It is a shame," a media buyer told the magazine. "When the networks try to push the envelope a little and try to be more like HBO, the advertisers run away." The closest thing to a rave that the show's gotten so far is Matthew Gilbert in the Boston Globe, who says that after four episodes, it's "almost really good, or, said differently, good enough to reveal how really good it could be." Peter Ames Carlin is a little less lukewarm in his Idiot Box column in the Portland Oregonian (great name for a TV column by the way.)

Carlin calls the show a "disaster," while admitting that, as a child of the '70s, he really wanted it to work. He complains about the music first of all, and he's right — given a choice between something really interesting and the most obvious Top 40 shorthand for the era, the show goes for the latter. Even when they shoehorn a Dylan song into the story, it's the painfully obvious — and 12-year-old — It Ain't Me, Babe.

By 1976, there were 17 Dylan albums that could have been mined for a song, including the painfully apt Blood On The Tracks, which was only a year old at the time. Ditto for You Can't Always Get What You Want by the Rolling Stones — overused a long time ago as a quick, anthemic fix of adrenaline for too many soundtracks.

But the big problem is the characterization. Carlin points out the swinging Tom and Trina barely register as real people — Grant Show's Tom is really just a delivery system for his moustache. Bruce and Susan — the emotional core of the show, in theory — don't sell their sudden urge to spice up their marriage with a bit of spouse-swapping with any real success, mostly because they don't really seem all that into Tom or Trina, and as Susan's nagging nemesis, Miriam Shor's Janet is all shrew, all the time. Sensing that her prim disapproval was getting wearing, they got her wasted on pot brownies in episode four and practically remade the character between commercial breaks.

Finally, Carlin is right that the kids are the most interesting characters, probably because the people who created it were kids in the first year of the Carter presidency, when the adults were acting like kids and the kids felt positively middle-aged with prescient anxiety, but that might be too little, too late.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Susan and Bruce Miller (Molly Parker and Jack Davenport) in a scene from Swingtown.

THE DARK KNIGHT
Go to **metronews.ca** and tell us the page you found this on

	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
7/9/08 primetime	2	CFRN	239	318	eTalk	Canadian Idol	CSI: NY (HDTV)		So You Think You Can Dance The top 12. (N)			News (N)
	3	KHQ	-	370	News (N)	Raymond	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	The Baby Borrowers		The Baby Borrowers (N)	Celeb. Circus
	4	CBXT	-	307	Coronation St.	22 Minutes	Little Mosque	Sophie	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National	Stampede
	6	KREM	-	372	News (N)	Hollywood	Friends	Scrubs	Price Is Right Spectacular		Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY
	7	CKEM	241	347	Friends	Friends	Make Me a Supermodel		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Entourage	Entourage	Your City
	8	CITV	240	339	ET Canada	Entertainment	ReGenesis		The Office	Name Is Earl	NCIS (HDTV)	News Hour
	12	CBXFT	119	705	Des squelettes	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)		Bons baisers de France (SC)		Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)	TJ Alberta
	13	KXLY	-	371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Wife Swap		Supernanny	Primetime
	16	KAYU	-	373	'70s Show	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance The top 12. (N)			News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	-	'70s Show	E! News	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card		Janice Dickinson Modeling		Celebrity Circus (N)	News (N)
	22	KSPS	-	374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Click & Clack's-Wrench Turns		Dancesport World		Nova scienceNOW (N)	Carrier (HDTV)
	24	WTVS	-	364	Nova scienceNOW (N)		Barenaked Ladies: Talk		Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N)
news	15	CBCN	502	-	CBC News: The National		Please Vote for Me (2007)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National	Please Vote
	21	TWN	505	398	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two			
	27	CNN	500	500	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live	Cooper 360
	54	CTVN	501	391	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	70	BNN	504	508	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Business News		Market Call	Workopolis TV	Squeeze Play
sports	20	TSN	400	400	MLB Baseball		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Off the Record	Boxing Wednesday Night Fights.	
	23	net	408	418	Ms. Fitness USA '08		Darts World Premier League.				Sportsnet Connected	Ult. Fighter
	47	SPEED	417	406	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Pass Time	Pass Time	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Unique Whips	Pinks (HDTV)
	94	SCORE	410	403	(5) RaceNight		Score Update		Stump-Schwab	World Series of Poker		Score Update	Score Update
family	9	EDACC	267	351	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Perfect Drive	Simple Fresh	Supernatural (HDTV)		Supernanny		Help TV
	14	YTV	552	543	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach
	17	TREE	553	546	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Crazy Quilt
	42	TOON	555	545	6teen	Johnny Test	George-Jungle	Merrie Melody	Loonatics	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Hellboy: Blood
	45	FAM	557	541	Zoey 101	Life Derek	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School
cable variety	-	TVA	121	714	TVA 18 heures	Sucré-salé	Marché	Vidéos	Spécial François Léveillée		Esprits criminels (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures
	18	CMT	575	583	Coyote Ugly	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Totally "2002"		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.
	25	A&E	615	520	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	The First 48 (HDTV)	Bounty Hunter
	26	MMM	571	581	Tip of Tongue	Tip of Tongue	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Uncovered	Back In	Don't Forget the Lyrics!	Popaganda
	29	FOOD	603	561	Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		Challenge (N)		Iron Chef America	Next Food Star
	31	SHOW	617	522	Trailer Park	Billable Hours	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Da Vinci's Inquest		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Big Love
	32	DISC	520	505	Sport Science (N)		Mayday "Fatal Flaw"		Daily Planet		MythBusters	Dirty Jobs
	33	SLICE	601	562	Work Out		Inside Hollywood (DVS)		X-Weighted		Work Out	Inside Hollywd.
	34	W	602	567	Shopping Bags	House	Will & Grace	Friends	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck (N)	Real Women
	35	TLC	521	560	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	The Singing Office		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Singing Office
	36	BRAVO	620	523	Mad Men "5G"		Entourage	Bravonews	Law & Order "Savior"		Without a Trace "4.0"	Breast Men
	38	SPIKE	628	584	UFC Fight Night				MANswers	Factory (HDTV)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Trek: Voyager
	40	HIST	522	506	Mob Stories		NCIS "Caught on Tape"		Crime Stories		Rome "Stealing From Saturn"	
	41	COM	626	547	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black
	43	SPACE	627	528	Smallville "Wrath"		Supernatural		Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Ent.
	44	WPCH	294	650	(6) The Whole Ten Yards		Frasier	Seinfeld	Friends	Friends	The Whole Ten Yards ★ (2004, Comedy)	
	46	OLN	411	457	(6) Cycling Tour de France Stage 5. (N)				Word Travels	Globe Guides	Cycling Tour de France Stage 5.	
	48	TROP	619	525	What Happen?	Vanity Insanity	TV Made, Do It	TV Made, Do It	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	50	STAR	621	527	Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk	TMZ	Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew	Hollywood
	52	HGTV	600	564	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Flipping Out		Holmes-Homes	Holmes-Homes	Property Shop	Big City Broker	Property Virgin
	65	TLN	700	800	(6) L'Avvocato Porta		The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Paid Program	Paid Program
	92	APTN	269	350	First Talk	News	Place Between Adoption		Chiefs-Champ	Rez Rides	Northern Exposure		Wolf Lake
	93	VISION	261	394	Jeeves and Wooster		Captive: The Story of Esther		Side Effects "Pillow Talk"		Jeeves and Wooster		Chambers
	100	MTV	581	566	The Real World		The Real World		MTV Live		The Real World		The Real World
	101	MM	570	580	The Shift		America's Best Dance Crew			Totally Untrue	Punk'd	America's Best Dance Crew
	102	CPAC	512	396	Question Period		Revue Politique Headlines.		Primetime Politics		Question Period	Hse-Commons
	103	CLT	526	507	(6) Peter the Great		Traders		The West Wing		The District	Peter-Grt.
	105	TV5	145	761	Les Aristos	La Chanson-	Vivre à vélo	Partir autre	Journal TV5	Festivals	Mondial d'impro	Hep! Taxi
	106	RDI	126	730	Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Journal RDI	Le National	Le Téléjournal

critics' corner

Supernatural
Who knew vampires had their own version of a date-rape drug? Sam and Dean (Jared Padalecki, Jensen Ackles) meet a female vampire (Mercedes McNab, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer") who has no idea how she got that way. Turns out there's a vampire dude (Matthew Humphreys) who's hitting the bars and giving women blood cocktails. He also works his magic on Gordon (Sterling K. Brown). 8 PM on SPACE 9 PM on EDACCESS

Wife Swap
Religious differences are at the heart of this episode, but it's not the Christians against the pagans or the atheists this time. Both wives call themselves devout Christians, but Lee-Ann and her family are conservatives who take the Bible literally and home-school the kids, while Kim and her stay-at-home hubby practice a more liberal interpretation. Neither husband takes kindly to the changes wrought by the swap ... one even cries. 9 PM on KXLY

Jada Pinkett Smith has called in Hollywood's Dog Whisperer Cesar Millan to train her pets to avoid rattlesnakes. The actress was devastated when her beloved pooch Rocco died after a rattlesnake attack and she now feels compelled to make sure her other dogs stay away from danger. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

McConaughey first-time father

FATHERHOOD Hollywood star Matthew McConaughey and his girlfriend are "elated" after the birth of their first child, a baby boy, *imdb.com* reports.

Brazilian model Camila Alves gave birth to a seven pound, four ounce son at 6:22 p.m. in Los Angeles on Monday night, the actor's representative Alan Nierob confirms to *People.com*.

In a statement to Ok! magazine, McConaughey says, "Camila and I were side by side the entire time.

"We are both tired and elated, and are so happy to have created the greatest miracle in the world — having a child and making a family. Now comes the greatest adventure — raising one, together."

The Wedding Planner star announced the news he and Alves were expecting on his official website in January.

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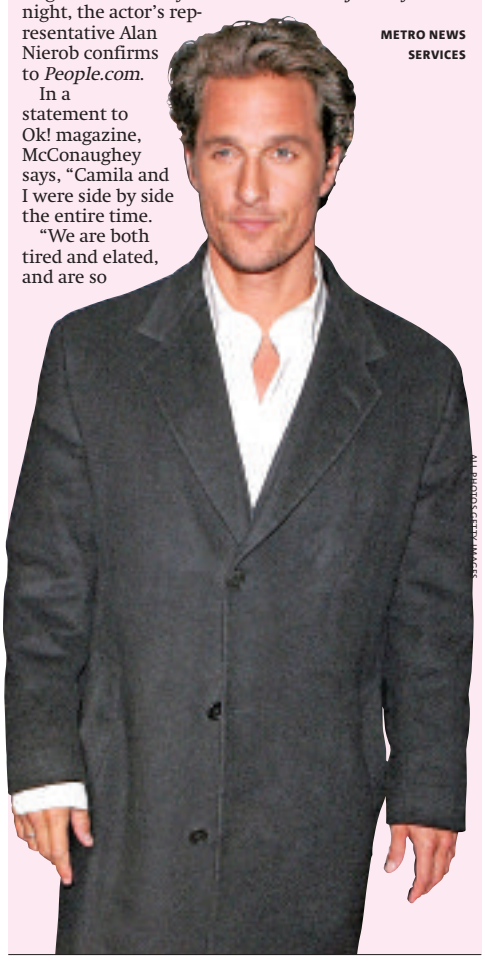


ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Barrymore, Long break up

RELATIONSHIPS Hollywood couple Drew Barrymore and Justin Long have split less than four months after the actress cooed about her lover on TV talk show Oprah, *imdb.com* reports.

Back in March, the Charlie's Angels star told TV host Oprah Winfrey she was mad about Long.

She said her romance with the Dodgeball actor was "healthy, productive, supportive and full of humour."

A spokesman for Barrymore tells America's Star magazine, "I can confirm the split but have no other comment."

The couple started dating in August after meeting on the set of upcoming movie He's Just Not That Into You. METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Allen and Simons together again

ROMANCE Lily Allen is dating Chemical Brothers star Ed Simons again, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

The singer, 23, is believed to have reconciled with the 38-year-old after revealing she is no longer single on Facebook social networking website Monday.

Both Lily and Ed — who ended their three-month relationship earlier this year shortly after Lily suffered a miscarriage — altered the status on their personal profiles to "in a relationship." The couple were then swamped with messages of congratulations from friends. The reunited couple have been spotted together on numerous occasions in recent weeks.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Lohan given ring from Samantha

GIFT Lindsay Lohan has been given a $22,000 "commitment" ring by girlfriend Samantha Ronson, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports. The actress was taken shopping by the DJ last week to celebrate her 22nd birthday and was thrilled when Sam splashed out on the stunning piece of jewelry.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jolie wants natural birth: Doc

CHILDBIRTH Pregnant Angelina Jolie is holding steady — and enjoying reruns of Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman. Dr. Michel Sussmann told *starmagazine.com* that Angelina hopes that babies will be born naturally — not via C-section.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Prince building house in Africa

CHARITY Prince Harry is once again raising a hand to help the AIDS-stricken African nation of Lesotho, this time building a special-needs school with his army buddies from the Household Cavalry's Blues and Royals regiment, *people.com* reports. Harry, 23, says he hopes the facility in the northern town of Butha Buthe will be the first of many that can be provided by his Sentebale charitable foundation, reports Britain's Telegraph.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ashlee freaked about pounds

BODY IMAGE Four-months-pregnant Ashlee Simpson-Wentz has become Little Miss Obsessive about her new baby body, *starmagazine.com* reports. The pop singer is so surprised she's gained so much so fast — 20 pounds already — that she's working out six days a week with Mike Alexander, sister Jessica's ex trainer. She's doing low-impact exercises, such as riding the stationary bike and Pilates. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Moss boots boyfriend out

BREAKUP Kate Moss' relationship with Jamie Hince is rumoured to be on the rocks, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

The supermodel — who started dating the The Kills guitarist last summer — reportedly had a blazing row on Saturday and the rocker has now started moving his possessions out of her North London home.

A source told Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper: "Kate made some comment about a girl who had been hanging around Jamie and it deteriorated from there. Just hours later, Jamie was packing his things and moving stuff out of her house. By the afternoon, most if it had gone."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mendes snaps back in interview

INTERVIEW Eva Mendes, who quietly admitted herself into treatment at the Cirque Lodge in Utah in January, snapped at a reporter for Interview magazine who joked that Alcoholics Anonymous would have to be changed to Alcoholics Unanimous because of the prevalence of problems in Hollywood.

"I'm not making jokes, because people die from this stuff," she says in the interview. "So, honestly, I think it's a bit tacky that you made a joke. I've got to be honest." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Cynthia's spiteful spending

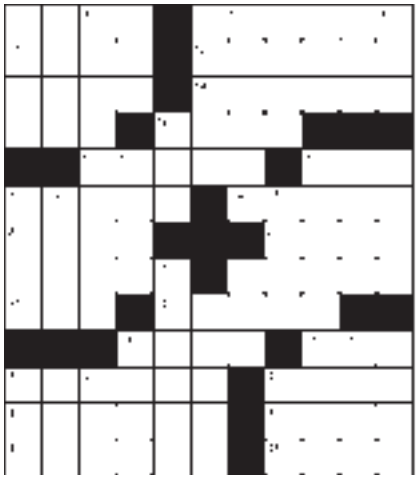
DIVORCE Pals of Alex Rodriguez are speaking out against his wife Cynthia — a day after she alleged infidelity in her divorce papers, *usmagazine.com* reports.

One friend tells New York's Daily News that she spent close to $100,000 on his credit cards to punish him for his relationship with Madonna.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Former Village People lead singer Victor Willis is recovering in hospital following vocal cord surgery. Willis, the band's original policeman, had surgery at a San Diego, California, hospital on Monday to remove nodules from his vocal cords. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Take Five



Crossword across

1 With 5-Across, "Fawlty Towers" star
5 See 1-Across
11 Bassoon's kin
12 Prologue
13 Scot's skirt
14 Overlooked
15 Slippery one
16 Nudnik
17 Corpulent
19 Bound
22 Crew member
24 Kitchen sight
26 Map dot
27 Dash
28 Conclusion
30 Phones up
31 Greedy one
32 Texas mission
34 Dance part
35 Owl's question
38 Flowering tree
41 Astronaut Shepard
42 Dumas character
43 Thinker Descartes
44 Mend one's ways
45 Quiche base

Crossword down

1 Gag
2 Theater award
3 Home for a raccoon, perhaps
4 Tennis need
5 You're reading them
6 Telescope parts
7 Sunup site
8 Part of college e-mail addresses
9 Sermon topic
10 Sch. subj.
16 Apiece
18 Honey bunch
19 Ability to drink a lot
20 Egg outline
21 Corrals
22 Loaded
23 Ibsen's home
25 Squad
29 Has leftovers, say
30 Limit
33 Minimal amount
34 One or two
36 Put up
37 Addition column
38 Disfigure
39 Rage
40 Subway aid
41 Common verb

previous day's answer

950,000
Metro readers do it daily!
metro
Do it daily.
SOURCE: NADbank 2007, read yesterday; BASE: Montreal CMA, Ottawa-Gatineau CMA, Toronto CMA, Vancouver CMA

metro
Do it daily.
WEEKLY CD GIVEAWAY!
This week you can win:
NEIL DIAMOND: *Home Before Dark*
NOW AVAILABLE
To enter go to www.metronews.ca and click on WIN
Contest closes on July 13, 2008 at midnight

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Unfinished business must be cleared up. A man will make hesitant moves. Answer an interrogator with frankness.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Don't do anything just to continue a relationship. Someone will annoy everyone. A bad job is closer to completion.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Fulfill all your tasks but don't wear yourself out. Peace of mind is hard to find. Unexpected news makes the rounds.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A love affair will ripen. A rushed guy will get nasty. You're better off to take responsibility and admit to any mistakes.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Wait two days before reaching out for love. Contact will be made with a shady character. Prepare to pick up where you left off.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Use cunning to find a way around obstructions. A sweetheart will give an ultimatum. A dependency might break a bad connection.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A celestial alliance occurs in a romance. A jolly visitor brings good luck. Your self-denial won't alter a concept of reality.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
There'll be a spat with a petty person. A brief financial problem must be withstood. A child interferes with your playing.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
A friend needs help when challenging ethical codes. You'll empathize with a comical gnome. Anticipate a celebration.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Risk being honest about your flaws. A digression will only distract an adversary temporarily. Contacting a loser will help with a job.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Good news about a rapid recovery will come. Prepare for a blip in your routine. You won't be held back by an astonishing request.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
Mistakes are made but don't take it to heart. Steer clear of a menacing manager. Your truthfulness is keeping you out of the loop.

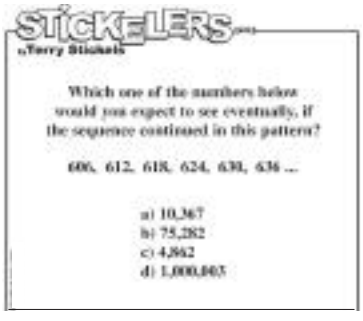
This day in history

JULY 9, 1948: Pakistan issued first set of Postage stamp, having image of Constituent Assembly, Jinnah International Airport (Quaid-e-Azam International Airport), and Shahi Fort.

JULY 9, 1986: The New Zealand Parliament passes the Homosexual Law Reform Act making homosexuality legal in New Zealand.

JULY 9, 1991: South Africa is reintroduced into the Olympic movement after 30 years of exclusion.

JULY 9, 2002: The African Union was established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



Previous Answer

The odd word out is "spacious." The others have four consecutive vowels.

			2				4	5
	6		7				8	
		3			6	1		
9				5	7			
	1	6				9	7	
			1	8				4
		9	8			7		
	2				4		1	
6	8				3			

Sudoku

INSTRUCTIONS:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

8	9	6	5	1	7	2	4	3
2	4	3	8	6	9	7	1	5
1	7	5	4	3	2	6	8	9
5	6	1	7	2	4	9	3	8
4	3	2	9	8	1	5	7	6
9	8	7	6	5	3	1	2	4
3	1	9	2	4	6	8	5	7
7	5	4	1	9	8	3	6	2
6	2	8	3	7	5	4	9	1

SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:
Under 13 . . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21 . . . . . Smart
21-25 . . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practicing

Edmonton weather

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
40%	60%	80%	80%	
Showers. 15°	Showers. Low 9°	Showers. 17°/ 8°	Rain. 19°/ 8°	Partly cloudy. 21°/ 11°

Temperature
Normals
High: 23.3°
Low: 10.9°

Records
High: 31.7°/1964
Low: 3.9°/1938

Sunrise: 5:17 a.m.
Sunset: 10:00 p.m.
Moonset: 12:08 a.m.
Moonrise: 1:59 p.m.

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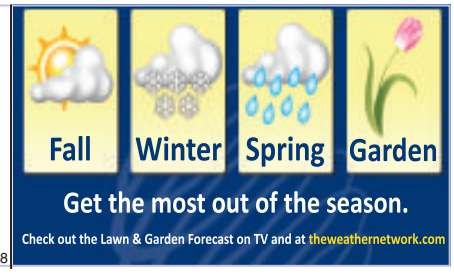

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With Biothera's Laser Weight Loss Management Program (LWL™)

What is LWL™?

Biothera's Laser Weight Loss Management is a complete system combining the benefits of cold laser technology along with a comprehensive nutritional program. Not only will you shed those unwanted pounds naturally without drugs, pills or side-effects, but you will look and feel better... all with one on one weight loss support with one of our Program Coordinators.

How Does Cold Laser Help You Lose Weight?

LWL™ treatments stimulates your metabolism thereby helping your body to use food more efficiently instead of storing it as fat. In addition, your appetite will be suppressed. LWL™ is also highly effective in relieving stress, which in turn will help alleviate food cravings.

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edmonton@biothera.ca